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The Long Island FISHERMAN

MAY 23rd, 1974, ISSUE No. 19

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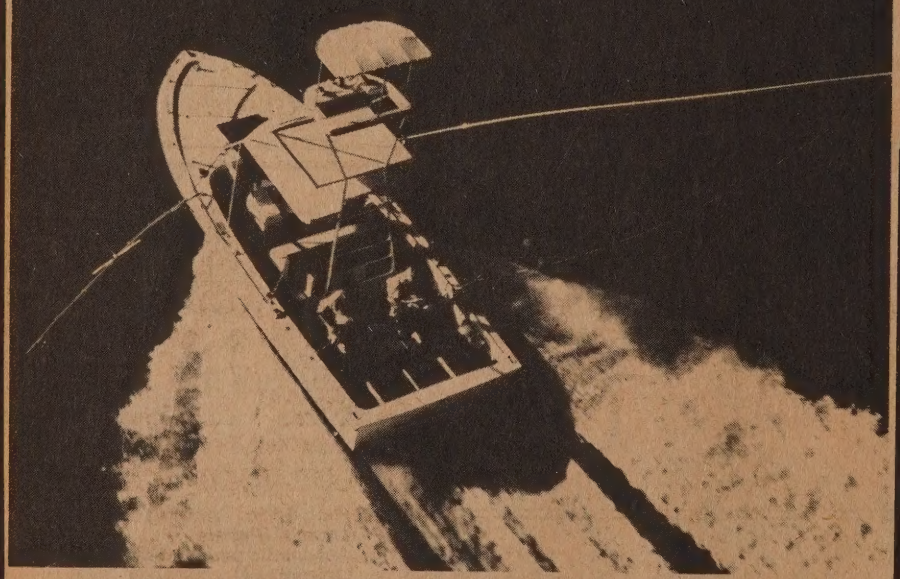

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, Number 19

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ABOUT THE COVER: Is this angler's sport in any significant way being protected by the Department of Environmental Conservation? We at the Fisherman think not. Read Dr. William A. Muller's first article in a series about Long Island's ecology on page 12.

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two (2) weeks in February, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corp., L.I.F. Building, 8 West 7th St., P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729. Telephone (516) 667-6633. Second class postage is paid at Deer Park. 25 cents a copy; 1 year, 50 issues, $9.00; 2 years, 100 issues, $17.00; 3 years, 150 issues, $25.00. Back issues are sold for 50 cents a copy. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. All consideration will be given these requests, however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new address. Allow two weeks for change.

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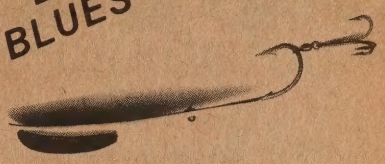

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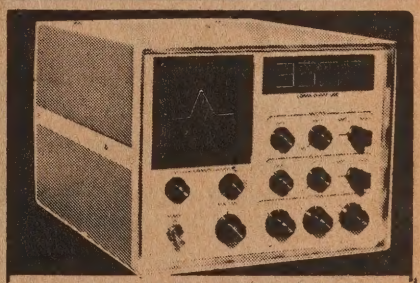

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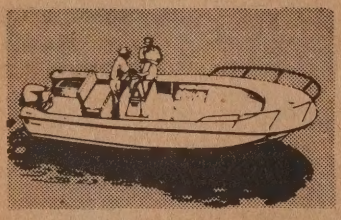

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EDITORIAL

Beginning with this issue, we are presenting a series of articles on the ecology of Long Island's marine habitats. The series will be written by Dr. William A. Muller; marine biologist, frequent contributor, and occasional crony.

Although we normally do not plan on this type of series (or article, for that matter) during the active part of the fishing season, its relevance and value at this time can hardly be questioned by any conscious person.

Perhaps you haven't heard that our notoriously marine-conservation wise Department of Environmental Conservation (D.E.C.) has requested the New York State Attorney General invalidate all local laws that restrict various types of netting, seining and trawling. This definitely would mean unleashing the commercial activities of the bunker boats, something that many legislators and sportsmen have fought very valiantly to control these past few years. Local fishermen stand to lose whatever precious little they have in the way of conservation legislation.

One of our staff members called the legal counsel for the regional attorney's office of the D.E.C. and attempted to determine why they were challenging the laws. The answer was that "the towns have no jurisdiction to legislate on this."

When asked what does the D.E.C. care if they have jurisdiction or not, the reply came "...well, they don't, but the laws don't specify what species of fish can't be caught...."

The counselor also stated, when asked were the local laws bad conservation, "...No, they aren't bad conservation."

What, then, is the reason for the sudden activity on the part of D.E.C. in this region? They haven't given a Damn up till now whether or not Long Island survives as a marine ecological unit, but all of a sudden someone is concerned about naming species in local legislation that is, by their own admission, not "bad conservation".

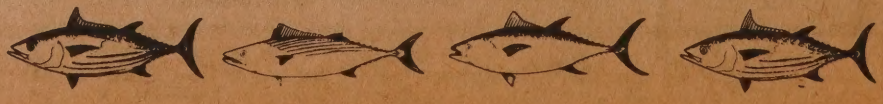
Anyhow, more to the point, the first article in this series presents a case for getting rid of D.E.C. as it functions today regarding our region, and the article had been planned long before there was anything like the recent D.E.C. intrusion into matters of which they have, at decision-making levels, no competence whatsoever; that is, matters that require a conservation ethic. Incidentally, before we are accused of condemning all D.E.C. employees through a shotgun attack, let us say that we know there are many of them that are unhappy with some decisions made at various and obscure levels. Politics and big money plays an important role in the application of pressures to coerce compliance with arbitrary decrees, so mouths must remain silent lest good people find themselves in precarious situations.

These dedicated people we eliminate from this discourse, and hope that some day they'll have the freedom to speak their minds without reprisals or recriminations.

We at The Fisherman are furious with rage and frustration and we'd like to use some of those deleted expletives, that we've recently read about, in connection with the beloved, knowledgeable, aware, concerned, positive and forward-thinking managers of our waters, the D.E.C.

Unfortunately, friends, the D.E.C. is aiming at we, the people of Long Island. They are oblivious to the fact that we, and many of our elected legislators, occupied the conservationist/ecologist vacuum that D.E.C. created by its complete and utter indifference to our needs. Now they're going to step in and do the right thing: invalidate laws they feel have encroached upon the domain of D.E.C. But—WHAT IS THE REAL REASON!

Please read what Doc Muller has to say. He's a good man and speaks from the heart about a Long Island that is his home, his source of livelihood, and his recreation. Bill doesn't want to see it die. The rest, dear readers, will be up to you.



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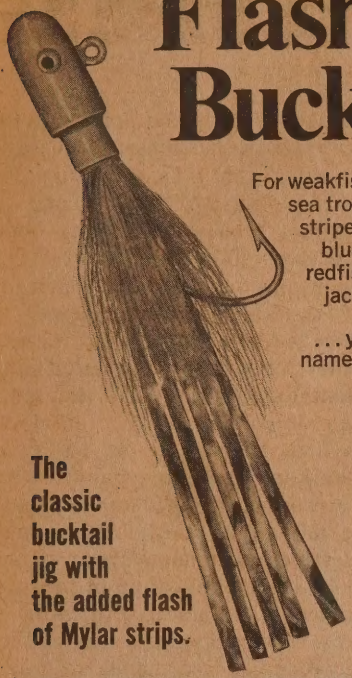

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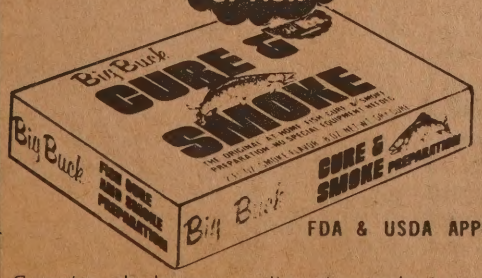

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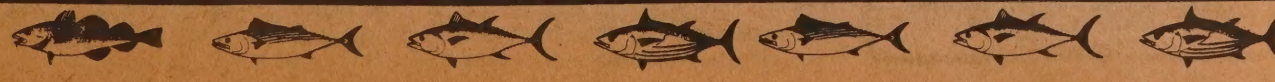

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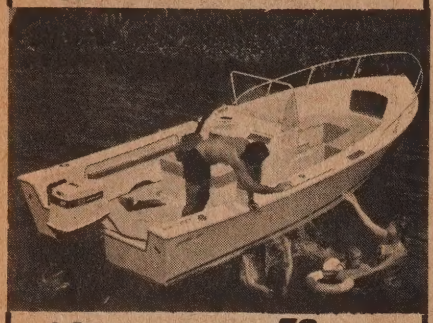

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News Releases

ANGLERS RESPOND TO ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA SITUATION

Fishing clubs, anglers and tournament committees in the Bahamas and along the Atlantic coast of the United States have responded overwhelmingly to the bluefin tuna situation, initiating immediate conservation measures which demonstrate their concern over the threatened species:

For the first time since 1939, when the Cat Cay (Bahamas) Tuna Tournament was first held, emphasis will be placed on Atlantic bluefin tuna released, rather than docked. Eligio (Jo Jo) Del Guercio, chairman of the tournament committee, recently announced that the rules for the forthcoming May 26-31, 1974, tournament have been modified in the interest of conservation. This year a scoring system has been devised that will penalize the angler for any fish brought ashore unless it is unusually large, with high scores given for tuna released to continue their migration north.

The United States Atlantic Tuna Tournament Committee has cancelled this year's event, which was scheduled for September in Gloucester, Massachusetts, in the interest of promoting a bluefin fishing moratorium. This would have been their 32nd annual competition.

Shortly after the USATT announced its decision, the Sheepshead Bay Tuna Club of New York cancelled its annual competition as an example of the angler's concern for threatened species.

Webster Goodwin, Secretary/Treasurer of the Atlantic Tuna Club in Providence, Rhode Island, recently informed IGFA that their club is planning to place restrictions on the taking of tuna among members this year and to join with the IGFA and other organizations in doing everything possible to promote the conservation of tuna stocks.

The Director of the Rhode Island Tuna Tournament reports that in addition to their past efforts to promote the tagging and release of tuna during their competition, plans for their 1974 contest include even more emphasis on the importance of tagging and releasing fish. They plan to award trophies for the first fish released and for the most fish released, as well as a special trophy to each and every angler that participates in releasing tuna.

We also understand that the Tuna Tournament Committee at the Broad Sound Tuna Club, Revere, Massachusetts, is planning tuna conservation measures for their forthcoming tournament in August. They will eliminate all harpoons from the boats and ban the practice of chumming which has brought in many large tuna in the past few years.

Beginning with the International Game Fish Research Conference held in New Orleans, Louisiana, in October, 1973, when Frank Mather III of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution presented his alarming report on the status of the Atlantic bluefin tuna, IGFA has made every effort to get the facts about the bluefin to anglers and fishing clubs. Resolutions passed by the Board of Trustees on March 4, 1974, urged anglers throughout the Antlantic Ocean to substantially reduce the killing of bluefin tuna of all sizes in their sportfishing activities.

The response to the bluefin conservation effort is steadily growing in all angling communities, and it will continue to swell as the tuna season approaches. Anglers are already taking a stand to show that they can and will contribute to a worthwhile and necessary conservation effort. The pressure is now mounting for the respective U.S. government agencies to conclude their meetings with Canada and the Bahamas and formulate a unified conservation policy.

The marine sport fisherman has and is demonstrating his good faith regarding conservation of a threatened species. By doing so, he offers a challenge to the commercial fishing interests to institute comparable and immediate conservation measures in a joint effort to preserve and perpetuate a viable

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population of the valuable Atlantic bluefin tuna.

LITTLE NECK BAY POWER SQUADRON SAILING PROGRAM—1974

LNBPS is made up of sail, as well as power boats. However, all boating activities and much of the educational material, is geared to the power boatman.

LNBPS is starting a program which will involve the sailors of the Squadron in on-the-water, as well as educational, activities.

There will be a program of discussions of various aspects of sailing. The program began May 2 and will continue with periodic meetings in the fall and winter.

There will be some on-the-water events to take place during the summer.

The next meeting will be on May 23 at 8:00 P.M. in MASONIC HALL, subject: I (WOULD LIKE) (AM CONSIDERING) (AM DREAMING OF) A (LARGER) SAILBOAT.

Where do I start? What do I do? How do I get it ready? What will it cost? What should I expect?

Questions of the new or future boatman (sail) will be discussed. All the answers to the questions you are embarassed to ask, or do not know to ask.

Further information to follow on: June 27 - (date not definite) INTRODUCTION TO SAILBOAT RACING July 27 - Sailors' Day Cruise and Raft-up.

For further information contact: Arnold Sucher - 883-3734 - Jon Ten Haagen

FLOTATION DEVICES: THE LAW

The Coast Guard Auxiliary would like to remind all boatowners that since October 1, 1973, it is mandatory for all boats 16 feet or over in length to carry one Coast Guard Approved type I,II, III, (wearable) personal flotation device for each person on board, and one type IV (Throwable, a buoyant seat cushion is allowable) in each boat.

Boats less than 16 feet in length, and all canoes and kayaks, must carry one Coast Guard Approved type I,II,III, (wearable) or type IV (Buoyant cushion or ring buoy) for each person on board. For FURTHER INFORMATION, contact Ralph Karnolt, 239 Melville Road, Huntington Sta., N.Y. Tel. (516) 427-2038.

BOATERS AND THE LAW

All boat-owners who contemplate using their boat this season should acquire knowledge of the Federal Equipment Regulation. All sizes of motor-propelled boats fall under Federal Regulation.

The Federal Equipment Requirements is contained in the leaflet PLEASURE CRAFT (CG-290) and can be obtained by writing to the Boating Safety Office, Third Coast Guard District, Governors Island, N.Y. 10004, or at the nearest Coast Guard.

The U.S.C.G.Auxiliary will have boats stationed at various marinas at certain days and will be only too happy to perform a Courtesy Motorboat Examination. This examination is free of charge and CONFIDENTIAL. The benefit to the boat owner is that he will know if his boat and equipment conforms to the law and, in case that there should be any violation, he will be able to correct same without being subjected to a fine. Furthermore, the knowledge of found violation is strictly kept between the boat owner and the inspector.

If the boat passes inspection a sticker will be attached to the boat. Flotilla 13-3 will notify boat owners of dates, time and locations for courtesy examinations through local newspapers.

We cannot impress enough the necessity of having your boat inspected. A boat equipped according to law not only may save you and your family's lives, but also avoid paying fines, which can be substantial. Courtesy of USCGA Flotilla 13-3.

BOATING COURSE TO BE HELD AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Flotilla 13-8, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, will conduct two free safe boating courses on the Nassau Community College Campus starting June 4th at 8:00 p.m.

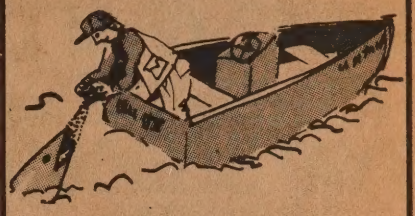
The 12 lesson adult course covers radio, compass, engine maintenance, charting and weather in addition to boat handling and safety lessons.

Also, conducted concurrently, will be a 3-lesson Young Boatmen Safety Course that will enable youngsters between the ages of 10 and 15 to earn their New York State Certificate to operate a motor boat.

Registration for both the 12 lesson adult course and the 3-lesson Young Boatmen course will be held at Nassau Community College, Garden City, Long Island in Lecture Hall 2, Room 2, on June 4th at 7:30 p.m. Directions will be available at the Stewart Avenue entrance.

For further information contact Flotilla 13-8 at (516) 868-4499.

Chum those SHARKS



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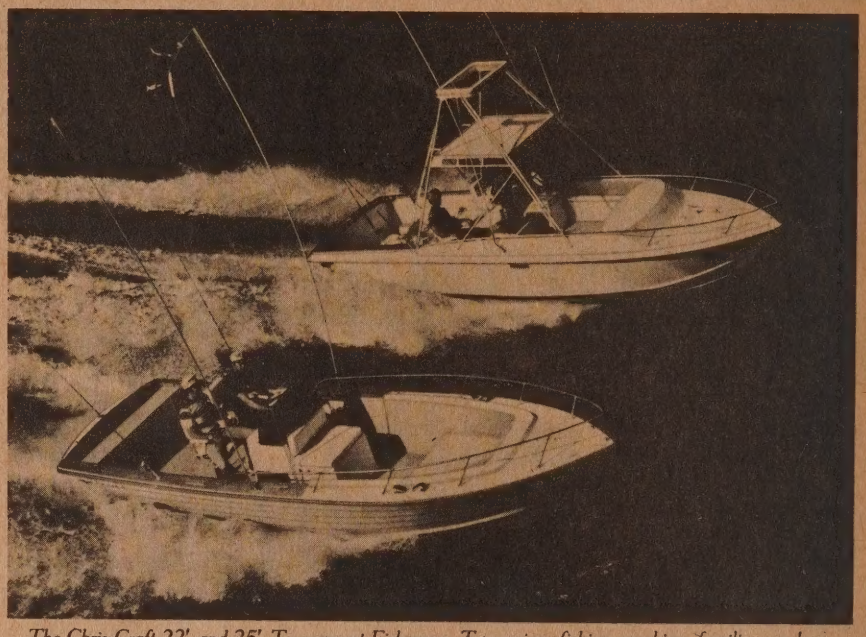
From this Command Console on the 22′ you can control a Chris-Craft V-8 of astonishing economy. In fact a fishing excursion could well consume less fuel than a Sunday drive.

Sure the 22′ and 25′ were first-rate fishing weapons. But they were also the kind of boats a fisherman with a family could indulge in—and never feel self indulgent. In fact, they appeal to the family for many of the same reasons they appeal to the fisherman in the family.

Both boats are inboards. That means less time in the shop, more time on the water. And the abundance of freeboard means less spray—for everyone in the family.

The hull of the 22′ Tournament Fisherman is a classic lapstrake dory design that takes rough water in stride—without the pounding common to other boats its size. And the 307 cu. in. V-8 will whisk you to the "grounds," or take the family water skiing with equal aplomb.



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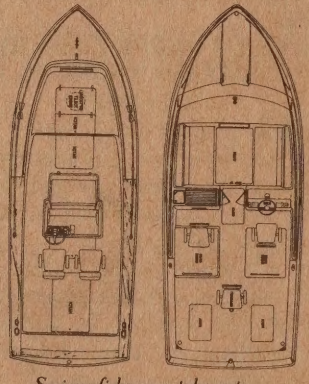

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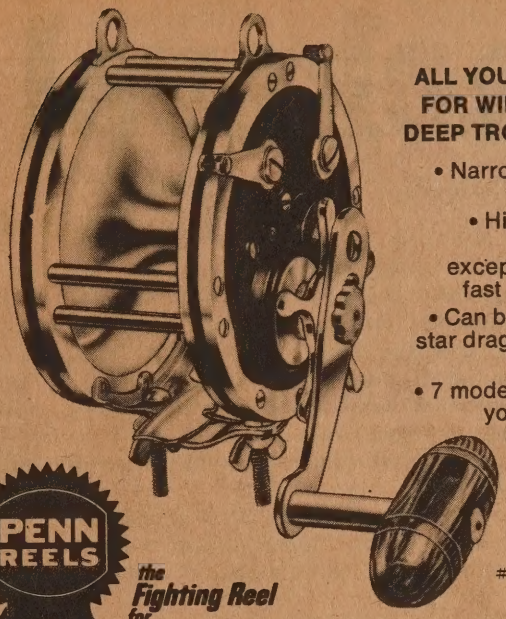

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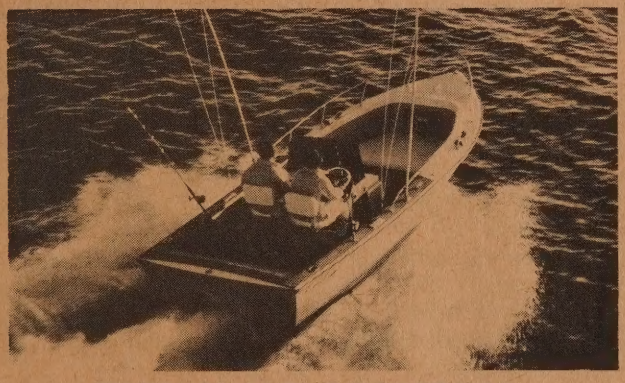

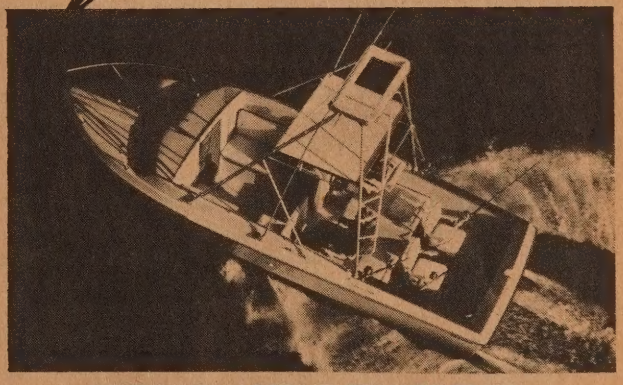

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Mackerel Fishing

by Matt Ahern

I had been ladling bunker chum overside for ten minutes, patiently waiting for the first mackerel to come aboard. My fishing buddy, Artie Leidecker, was doing his best to bring this about by flashing a diamond jig at various depths.

Ten days before, mackerel had been reported working their way north along the Jersey Coast, and Artie and I believed the time was now ripe for some of these fish to be off Long Island's south shore.

The weather this particular morning in early May was right for mackerel: calm, with a slight ripple moving over the surface. These are conditions favored for mackerel, and I felt confident we would get action.

From the Jones Inlet bell bouy we had headed 195° to 65 feet of water, putting us in the vicinity of the Coal Wreck. If the mackerel wouldn't cooperate, we planned to fish blackfish or ling. Perhaps a late cod or two might even come our way.

I was stirring the container of chum when Artie let out a whoop.

"Gotcha! Here comes number one!"

I could see his rod take on a set as the fish made a dash under the boat. Artie fought him to the surface, then swung him aboard. We had our first mackerel, a fish about 1½ pounds.

I grabbed my rod and made a short, underhand cast, letting the diamond jig peel off the 20 pound monofilament. I stopped it at about the 25 foot level and began to jig.

"How deep are they?" I asked.

"About twenty feet," Artie said, hooking another.

I cranked in a few more feet, jigging all the while.

Pow! I got that rod-stopping jolt all mackerel fishermen know, and, after a spirited, rod-bending battle, I lifted a fine, fat mackerel aboard.

A few minutes later we were into a large school of mackerel that had been drawn to the chum, and we caught them as fast as we could get the diamond jigs in the water. One scrappy mackerel after another came flying aboard. Occasionally one of us would take time out to ladle more chum, but there seemed no end to the fish. It was wild fishing.

By chumming cautiously, we gradually brought them closer to the surface; we could see them milling around, shoulder to shoulder, racing each other for the jigs. Had we put on a mackerel tree, or several plastic tubes, we could easily have gotten three or four at a time—for that's the way mackerel fishing can be.

Just as things were at their wildest, a shark homed-in on the easy pickings. The mackerel, sounding in a flash, were gone

We could have located and chummed another school had we moved away from the area, but we had taken enough. Our large plastic container was filled to brimming with beautiful, fat mackerel.

When mackerel are around, fishing such as this goes on hour after hour off the south shore of Long Island, but usually the arm-weary fishermen will quit after an hour or two, and begin dropping hints about going home. Especially when he realizes he's got to clean all those fish.

To be that plentiful, mackerel must be one of the most numerous fish in the sea—and they are. The mackerel family, which takes in many species, including the tunas and bonitos, are distributed world-wide. Only the herrings outnumber them, and some fisheries scientists have their doubts about that.

The average fisherman, though he may have passing interest in such statistics, is more concerned in knowing when mackerel will be available to him, but this can be difficult to predict.

Toward the middle of April, the experienced mackerel fisherman's thoughts drift to these gamey bits of dynamite. Fishing reports are read avidly and, if mackerel are noted coming up the Jersey Coast, out come the shiny mackerel jigs.

Until a relatively few short years ago, mackerel were considered strictly commercial fish. There were always a few fishermen who dunked baits for these scrappers, but the majority never thought much about the unknown bonanza that awaited them. That is, not until a few unknown fishermen, experimenting with mossbunker chum, started a whole new fishery.

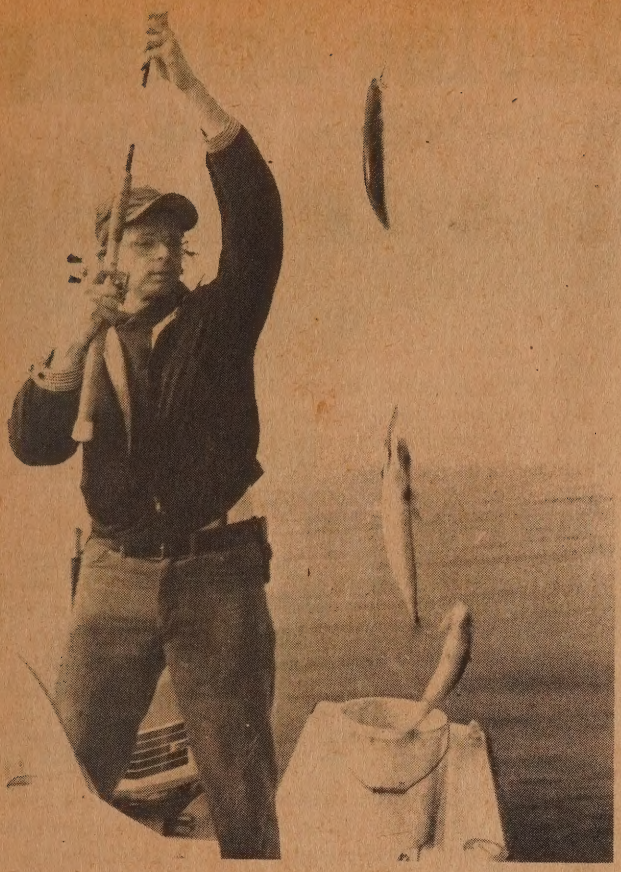
They found not only mackerel exciting and fun to catch, but when in a biting mood, it was difficult not to catch them, as they would hit any lure or bait as long as it was properly presented.

When mackerel are in a feeding frenzy, anything goes. I have caught them by using strips of wax paper as an experiment. Actually, it doesn't seem to matter what is used once they begin feeding. The trick is to find them, and this isn't too difficult.

Atlantic mackerel are strictly an ocean fish, and rarely are large ones caught in shallow bays and creeks like flounders; they need plenty of water around them. That is why Long Island Sound is great mackerel ground—being deep, it affords the necessary room to move about.

The fisherman should keep this in mind when searching for mackerel schools. Look for sea birds such as gulls and the diving gannets; they can aid you in your search. Should you see them working and seem reluctant to leave when you approach, the chances are good there are mackerel around.

There are several other methods used to locate mackerel. You can anchor in a likely spot and chum, you can drift until you hit fish, or you can troll the edges of a known school. To my mind, the best method is to find water from 60 to 80 feet, anchor, and get the bunker chum going. The chum should be mixed with sea water to the consistency of thin soup. Ladle it cautiously; the idea is to have the fish seek out the source of



Stu Miller, L.I.F. staff member hefts a trio of spring mackerel.

this sudden windfall.

The tackle need not be elaborate. Any medium-weight rod and conventional reel filled with 20 pound mono will do the trick. You can use a spinning outfit, but if you're on a party boat, better stick to the conventional outfit. When several mackerel take hold at once, and you're fishing close quarters with other fishermen, many frustrating tangles will make you wish you had gone conventional. So will the other fishermen, in more ways than one. Spinning tackle is best used when aboard private craft when few are fishing.

The best lure, and easiest to use, is a two-to four-ounce diamond jig. My preference leans to the smaller one. Tie this directly to the line with an improved clinch knot. Snap swivels are easier to use, but unless they have a very dull finish, I'd forget them. Mackerel are attracted to the glint of a bright swivel, and you are sure to miss fish.

To the diamond jig, you can add several colored plastic tubes, or a mackerel tree, if you wish. The important thing to remember is to keep these lures in constant motion by jigging. If you use bait and allow it to drift out with the tide, this isn't important, but the artificial lures must be given action.

When chumming with ground bunker, ladle it overside into the tide. Don't break the chum line before the fish respond. This isn't the time to grab that beer. Once the fish begin hitting, someone should replenish the chum line occasionally. Past experience proves that once the chum line is broken, the fish rarely return. Which means, you must either begin chumming again and hope for another school, or try another area.

Very important, too, is to be as quiet as possible. Mackerel are extremely noise-conscious, so be careful not to drop anything on deck, or stamp your feet. Not only are they noise shy, they are line shy, too. This the main reason the old timers had difficulty boating fish with the old linen lines then in use. Use nothing but monofilament, or other lines of low visibility. Stay away from the heavy lines unless you use a five-foot leader of 20 pound monofilament.

If there are several fishermen aboard, each should use a diamond jig at different levels until the first fish is caught. This is where they are feeding. When the first fish is caught, it is smart to spot the line with a dab of quick-drying marker ink. A few words of caution: don't use knots instead; they will soon cut your line. Experienced fishermen usually find it unnecessary to mark their lines, but until you develop this "feel" for depth, it is best to be ready with the marker.

You will find all fish caught from the same school to be about the same size. If the first ones taken are two pounds, the others will not vary much from that weight. Although the average mackerel is probably 1½ pounds, larger fish are caught. Commercial men have caught them to eight pounds, but, for the sport fisherman, any mackerel over three pounds should be considered a big fish. Because of this similarity, party boat captains often make a short stop on a local wreck so that a blackfish or ling will decide the pool for his patrons.

There are times when mackerel will bite ravenously for an hour, then stop for no apparent reason. This is the time to dispense with artificial lures and try natural baits.

The best hook to use when this happens is a small flounder hook, baited with bunker hearts usually found in the can of chum. If these are not available, small pieces of mackerel belly will produce. A split shot placed near the hook loop will bring it down the few feet necessary. Peel the line off the reel, and, at the first sign of a bite, hook the fish. They won't toy with the bait; all you will feel is a light pick. Not having an air bladder, they can't stop and nibble. They feed on the move and must be struck at once.

Actually, there are two mackerel runs off Long Island—spring and fall. Usually the fish return about November on their way back to deep water off the Virginia Capes. These fish are fat and heavy from their summer feeding, and the same methods as used in springtime will take these fish. As a rule, they don't linger long, although there have been fall runs that extended throughout the winter.

Mackerel put up a game fight. They have a powerful strike, amazing speed, will dive and make long runs and, if you are using ultra-light tackle, will leap from the water. They will fight as hard and long as any trout of equal size. Many freshwater trout fishermen look forward to a couple of weeks of mackerel fishing every spring. Red and white streamers, weighted and fished deep, are readily accepted, and the battle is truly something to behold.

Because mackerel are an oily fish, some fishermen don't care for the taste, but they are good eating. They can be stuffed and baked, or you can filet and pan fry. They freeze well, but lose their delicate taste if not used in a reasonable period of time.

For really choice eating, nothing beats a smoked mackerel. If you plan to do much mackerel fishing, you should learn to do this yourself, or make arrangements with a commercial smoker to do it for you. They usually do this on a 50-50 basis, returning half of what you leave. Once you taste that succulent, smoke-flavored meat, there won't be enough mackerel in the sea to satisfy you.

This spring be sure you are ready when those mackerel hoards arrive off our south shore. You'll soon know why other fishermen drop everything else and go mackerel fishing.

Long Island's Marine Ecology

PART ONE

A Case for Disbanding the Department of Environmental Conservation

by Dr. William A. Muller

"The conservation department does not act, it reacts to problems."

Dick Schaefer's description is, in reality, a condemnation of a government agency whose purpose should be to act in order to protect the ecology of the State of New York.

At a recent meeting to discuss the possible need for curbing commercial bunker boats in Long Island Sound, many people came away with the feeling that the Department of Environmental Conservation (D.E.C.) simply did not recognize that a problem exists. According to Glenn Voparil, sportsmen who had attended the meeting came away complaining that Al Jensen (D.E.C.'s Acting Director of Marine and Coastal Resources) reacted at the bunker meeting like he'd been handed a fist full of dollars from the bunker industry. He down-played the role of menhaden in Long Island Sound, both as a factor in the sport fishery and as an ecological factor, and expressed the opinion that if there are no menhaden the blues will feed on many other forms of marine life.

In fact, the official publication of the D.E.C., *The Conservationist*, (Volume 28, number 5, April-May 1974) published *Menhaden—Mystery Fish of the Coastal Sea*, by Charles R. Meyer, which is, in my opinion, a thinnly-veiled argument for continued exploitation of the bunker fishery in Long Island Sound. But let me be clear on one point: I definitely am not arguing for the complete cessation of commercial bunker fishing in the Sound; this would waste a valuable resource.

However, at the present time there are virtually no regulations governing where, when, and how the commercial catch shall be made. There are reasons why regulation and enforcement are vitally needed, but the D.E.C. and Mr. Meyer have chosen to ignore them.

First, commercial bunker boats *do* kill menhaden incidental to the harvest, and these fish *do* on occasion wash ashore.

Second, some commercial bunker boats *do* take stripers and blues. Perhaps not in the day—when they are collecting bunker—but they do harvest these fish at night when I have often seen them working close to shore.

Third, some bunker boats *do* process the bunker near our beaches and this creates a stinking, oily, bloody mess.

Fourth, the menhaden *are* probably the single most important finfish, both to the ecology of Long Island Sound and to the quality of the striped bass and bluefish sportfisheries.

Some ideas about menhaden ecology: One, bunker eat plankton which grows quickly and extensively in the rich waters of the Sound. In order for the food chain to continue in the Sound, the plankton crop must be consumed and converted into animal protein. No other single plankton-feeding species in the Sound is abundant enough to effectively harvest the plankton.

Second, although a bluefish can feed on many marine creatures, the bunker is its natural and most abundant prey resource. If the menhaden are not available, the bluefish have to struggle to secure enough food to satisfy their energy-consuming life-style. Other species of baitfish are not adequately abundant for long periods of time, and the available bottom life is less conspicuous and, therefore, more difficult to find than the actively swimming bunker. Thus, when bunker are absent from an area, the bluefishing is poor.

How long will this marsh habitat continue to produce harvests of mussels if the bog is destroyed in this manner?

Will power plants along the shores of the Hudson River eradicate striped bass in the river?

Third, bluefish kill more bunker than they consume or use, and this is vital to the success of many species of bottom dwelling animals which utilize the rain of bunker pieces from overhead foraging bluefish. Therefore, natural kills of bunker from diseases and other natural causes also help to provide food for many species of animals in Long Island Sound.

Marine ecologists are aware that fish populations do fluctuate naturally, but these oscillations should not serve as a convenient cop-out for those who wish to avoid problems and/or perpetuate abuses. Marine ecologists are concerned that, when the stresses of man's abusive activities are superimposed upon the down side of a species' natural cycle, the total effect could be the elimination of the species.

But the department and its leadership are equally success-

ful at avoiding other crucial environmental problems affecting Long Island's marine habitats, although we are fortunate that four towns on Long Island have already demonstrated a sensitivity to the importance of a stable marine ecology in the waters under their jurisdiction. The town of Islip has placed restrictions on gillnetting and these laws should give the weakfish a fairer chance to spawn before they are harvested.

The towns of North Hempstead, Glen Cove, and Huntington have passed legislation to effectively restrict bunker fishing to mid-sound. Oyster Bay and Brookhaven Town may soon follow suit. I hope that these towns will enforce the legislation with the same vigor and foresight that was necessary to pass the laws in the first place. (*NOTE: The situation has changed. See Editorial, this issue.*)

These Long Island towns, it should be noted, did not take action because of any advice or pressure from the D.E.C. Rather, the impetus came from local citizens who fought vigorously for the legislation. The department took no stand to end gillnetting in either the Hudson River or Long Island's Bays. In addition, the agency has not fought for an end to haul seining or commercial dragging inside Peconic and Gardiner's Bays, which is now allowed after October 15 of each year.

What of the increase in fish traps in east end bays which trap migrating species *before* they have had the opportunity to spawn? We ask what is the position of the D.E.C.? The department also seems to lack a strong opinion on sludge dumping in New York Bight.

Furthermore, failing to take a firm stand on some crucial ecological issue, the department actually seems willing to facilitate anti-conservation activities. In spite of the fact that the Atomic Energy Commission has stated that the proposed Con Edison Storm King Mountain power plant will have very serious effects on the striped bass population in the river, the D.E.C. has stated that it is ready to issue the appropriate permits to begin construction. Is this the function of a "conservation" department—to encourage destruction—or to conserve what little remains of our precious marine habitats?

Precisely, New York State law mandates that the D.E.C. must monitor, protect, and enforce conservation practices and management.

"The Department of Environmental Conservation has the responsibility of protecting and enhancing the environmental and natural resources of New York State."

The charge also clearly includes the *management* of marine resources.

"These include management of state-owned forestlands, assistance to private owners of forestland, control and utilization of fish and wildlife resources, management of water resources and protection of marine coastlines."

But the D.E.C. is silent on extending U.S. territorial waters to 200 miles, despite the already diminished stocks of bluefin tuna, yellowtail flounder, and many other ground fish.

The leadership of the agency has chosen not to recommend changes in township dredging operations, either, even though most dredged waters are filled within a year or two by the action of wind and tide. Is the destruction and continued upheaval of tidal habitats part of the definition of "conservation?" Technology is available to dredge without severe long range harmful effects.

Also on the minus side, little has been done to manage an explosive exploitation of the lobster fishery in Long Island waters, and many lobstermen have expressed fear that a decline has already begun. But the *coup de grâce* occurred recently, and the stand of the D.E.C. represented a position of immense weakness and ignorance. Informed that baymen in

Is bluefishing in Long Island Sound to be doomed for want of bunker?

Peconic Bay were destroying precious and vital wetlands while harvesting mussels, the D.E.C. stated simply that "...no damage was being done and, in fact, the activities of the baymen were good for the mussel population...." Is this why one is hard pressed to find mussel populations in Zach's Bay of today, where once they flourished and the baymen harvested?

I must hasten to clarify that the harvest of mussels is *not* objectionable to this marine biologist. In fact, the harvest of adult mussels, when the habitat is left undamaged, can increase productivity in the future. However, the common practice of chopping up the marshy bog to secure the mussels will, within a few years, effectively eliminate the mussel's habitat and so, too, the mussels.

What, then, is the function of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation?

Research and development are no more a consistant vital function of the agency than is protection, conservation, and enforcement, yet Long Island's marine habitats are given only token attention. There are only two experimental marine stations operated by the department and little is happening at the Old Field Laboratory because of lack of funds. However, interesting work had begun on fluke spawning, blackfish behavior, effect of corn chum on flounder, and other vital projects that would have provided the kind of hard data that is needed in order to reach decisions and mitigate legislation which would promote effective management of marine resources.

Likewise, the department failed to become conspicuously involved in the fight to prevent the construction of the Rye-Oyster Bay bridge. During the controversy, my colleague, Dr. John Lee, was called to testify before a public hearing at Rye, New York. After 14 years of research into the ecology of salt marshes and marsh-bordered estuaries, my colleagues and I have seen little impact of practical research toward curtailing the exploitation and re-claimation of salt marshes in spite of the fact that published data clearly shows that healthy, complex, stable marshes are essential to the vitality of fish rich coastal waters. Nonetheless, we won a small victory.

(Continued on page 31.)

Diving Shinnecock Inlet

by John Fennimore

Shinnecock Inlet is one of the best diving areas on Long Island, and provides excitement for the amateur diver as well as the professional. But it can also be extremely dangerous, and, at times, impassable to all but the most skilled sailors.

There is an east and west jetty. Let me tell you about the east jetty; I didn't dive at the west jetty. I don't recommend that you do either. The waves seem to run through the inlet on an angle which causes them to break onto the west jetty. Which doesn't make for enjoyable diving.

There are two ways of getting to the east jetty. Using a beach buggy of some sort, you can run all the way to the beginning of the point, then snorkel out to the end. The other way to get there is by boat.

At times this inlet can be as glassy as a mirror, but nine trips out of ten it will give you a hair-raising experience. If you're new at this diving game, head your boat into the cove at the foot of the jetty. This little cove is a nice, protected place to keep your boat while diving. It will be sheltered from the boat traffic in the inlet and safe from the waves. This part of the inlet is also a good place to dive, if you don't dive directly in the cove. There are other boats that want to go in there too. Dive just outside of the cove, along the rocks of the jetty. (Area A.)

In this area you will find medium-sized blackfish (two pounds or so,) snappers and schools of baitfish, but the lobstering has steadily declined. It is very difficult to get a good sized lobster, let alone one that is legal. Be very sure that your lobster is legal before surfacing; there are game wardens that frequent the area.

Clearly posted are signs on the jetty that state the size that a lobster must be 3-3/16 inches from back of eye socket to end of shell, not including the tail. You may feel that this is unfair because at a restaurant last night you were served a lobster that was much smaller. Game wardens don't want to hear any stories, so don't go by what others say.

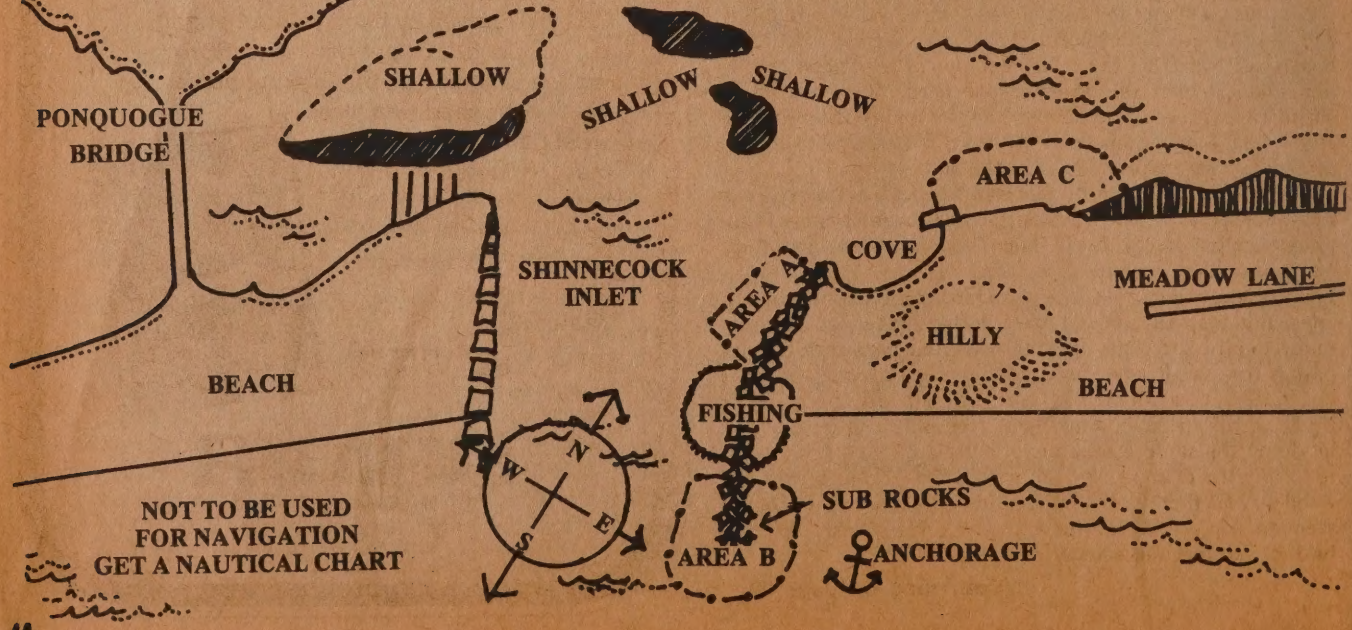
By now you are wondering why I said that this is a good area for beginners. Shinnecock Inlet is notorious for its big breakers and fast currents. If a diver should get caught in a current, he may be able to swim to the rocks. His chances of doing this are increased if he dives at the foot of the jetty rather than at the end. This spot also affords very nice viewing of underwater fauna and flora which covers the rocks and attracts many little fish.

If you are truly a neophyte, and want only to practice, this isn't the place for you. The shallow flats which surround the islands in Shinnecock bay would be much better, and the back of the point on bay side (Area C) also provides the "rookie" with a convenient place to dive. But wherever you go, a dive flag will come in handy because of the heavy boat traffic on weekends.

For the diver who knows his stuff, the tip of the point (Area B) is a must. If you travel by boat, go around the point when you go through the inlet, and anchor on ocean side just off of the rocks. If the inlet isn't too rough, chances are that out by the point the ocean will be mostly swells. Here too, your boat will be out of the way of the inlet's traffic.

As you lower the anchor, watch it going down till it bites into the sand. Hopefully, you will have gotten there just before high tide slack. The water is still running on inlet side, but not fast enough to bother you. Now you are snorkeling—to conserve tank air—toward the rocks. Twenty feet from the jetty you begin submerging. If you get too close to the rocks before going down to at least a ten foot depth, you run the risk of being thrown into them by the swells.

You're down on the bottom at last. Head toward the end of the point; there you will be safe. The rocks of the point slump downward, so many rocks are only partially submerged, or under water only a few feet. You won't get snagged in fishermen's lines, or caught in old mono (for the most part) because fishermen can't cast in this area. Rod and reel fishermen will be found further back, so try to stay out front. The reason I said "for the most part" is because sometimes trol-



lers turn too quickly and umbrella rigs get snagged up here. Be careful.

To get the most out of your hunting dives, it's a good idea to first explore this region. Take ten minutes, but bring your gun—just in case! There are plenty of nice looking blackfish out here, but nice looking isn't good enough for you! Make a mental note of the biggest fish you see. Then go hunting, but shoot only at these.

Instead of spearing some three-pounders, you'll get some five-pounders, maybe even bigger. It is hard to accurately determine size underwater, so whatever fish you do get, you'll know that they are the biggest to be had.

Shinnecock inlet is an unusual place. Stripers come looming seemingly out of nowhere. The main thing to keep in mind is that change occurs rapidly in the underwater scene. On one occasion, a white cloud of shrimp that saturated the water began moving through the inlet. Tiderunner weakfish and school bass began to feast ravenously on this incredible banquet. A tremendous school of porgies appeared and did the same. Following them came larger stripers which proceeded to do a job on the porgies.

You must therefore be aware of changing circumstances. Watch the schools of small blackfish and bergalls. Are they moving away or toward you? Does their behavior appear to be strange? Are they swimming faster than usual? If the fish are moving toward you, or acting oddly, something might be forcing them. Chances are that a school of bass is harrassing them, possibly causing them to seek shelter. Small fish, especially bergalls, are generally undesirable, but they could lead to bigger and better fish.

The variety of fish found in Shinnecock Inlet is astonishing. On one particular dive, I saw: bonito, flounders, fluke, weakfish, bass, blackfish, pollack, porgies, cunner, lobster and snappers, all sharing close quarters. Things come and go so fast, you really have to be on your toes. Fishermen and divers should take note of this fact.

Don't set your mind on getting one type of type of fish, or you'll get bored and probably skunked. One calm day I viewed dozens of boats drifting for fluke in the inlet, but no action. What the anglers didn't know was that there were thousands of two-pound class porgies moving through the inlet. The porgies stayed for only a half hour. If the fishermen had used a combination rig, with a second hook tied a few feet above the bottom fluke hook, they would have cleaned up. So if you go to Shinnecock be prepared for everything from tuna to snappers.

Now let's get into the mechanics—better known as problems—of diving Shinnecock. If you plan to use your own boat, make sure that the repair equipment is in good condition, and also in excess of your regular needs. If the boat is an outboard, extra shear and cotter pins are a must. Shinnecock and Tiana Bay are loaded with shoal water, so bending a prop or running aground isn't too difficult. While I was there in the summer of '73, a dredge was hard at work making a channel between Tiana Bay and the Ponquogue Bridge. This is definitely needed, but I hope it doesn't do too much damage to the ecosystem.

The Ponquogue Bridge is a hazard, especially on weekends. It is a small, wooden draw bridge that must open for many small craft. This opening where all boat traffic must pass is very small, and this area becomes extremely dangerous indeed. You will see big sport fishing boats charging the bridge at full speed, hoping that no one on the other side will be doing the same! Large boats must approach the bridge following the channel, on an angle. The bridge pillars are wooden, and therefore close together. Because of this, boats seem to pop out of nowhere. If you must go through this bridge, exercise the utmost caution.

(Continued on page 33.)

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How To Make Surge Tube Lures

by Bruce Sucher

After a fine Thanksgiving dinner I watched my father trim the heavy thighs of our half-devoured turkey. Instead of throwing the now-bare bones away, he put them aside. With a smile he went down to the basement and left them on a shelf near a cracked window.

It wasn't until next summer that I learned what his secret was. He sawed the joint ends off, reamed out the dry marrow, slipped a wire leader through the bone, and twisted on a long-shank squid Sproat hook. He lovingly steel-wooled the bone, made sure the hook end of the bone was cut at a sufficient angle, then twisted on a swivel to the eighteen inch length of wire protruding from the bone. He repeated the same operation with the other bone.

His sudden activity, which at the age of seven I considered a bit flakey, was prompted by a report of bluefish in the vicinity of the Rockaways.

Aboard my Uncle Joe's 26-foot Owens, the ABA-S, I watched those recycled bones catch fish after fish. Blues fell to the Jap feathers, lead-headed cedar wood plugs and, most of all—those weird turkey legs.

In years to come the thigh bones were replaced by pieces of tubular fiberglass and, though that worked just fine, it in turn was replaced by surgical tubing obtained at a pharmacy. These in turn evolved into those flesh-like plastic rigged eels and rubber sand worms.

Behind a boat, surgical tubing lures have proven themselves time after time—on umbrella rigs, coathangers, or simply by themselves on wire line or mono, with a trolling lead attached, and a ten-fifteen foot leader preceding the tube. Of all lures these are by far the cheapest and easiest to manufacture by the angler. (See photo #1 for necessary items.)

The simplest, and probably most-frequently used, are the short pieces of tube with a long shank 7/0 squid-Sproat hook and a number 1 black swivel attached to the eye of the hook.

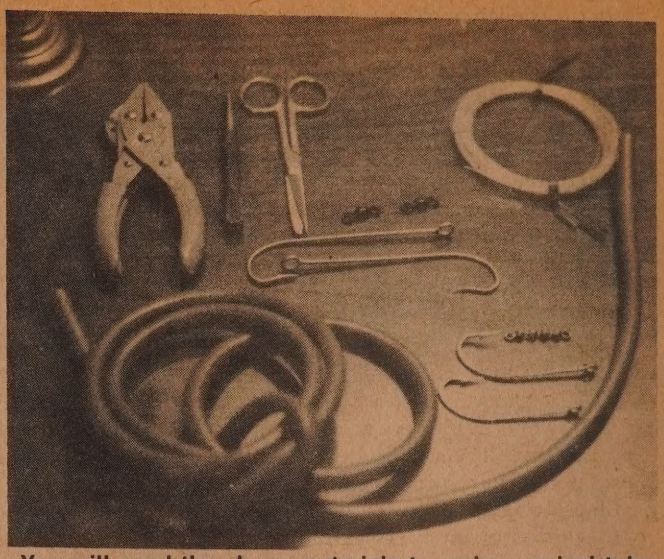
First off, you'll need surgical tubing. This can be bought at most tackle shops in five-foot lengths, natural or pre-dyed to any of various colors. Another choice is to buy it in bulk at a pharmaceutical supply outlet and dye the tubes in whatever colors by boiling them in Tintex.

Cut the tubing into six-inch lengths. Then, with a good scissors, make a diagonal cut so that there is an open tail of about two inches. Open the eye of the hook with a pliers, then slip it in from the tail to the head of the tube. Slip the blackened swivel onto the eye of the hook and then reclose with pliers or by tapping on a hard surface with a small hammer. (See Diagram #1.)

Make sure the eye is fully closed. I don't want you blaming me for lost fish.

That wasn't very hard was it? It probably cost you about 20 cents and three minutes of your time. In a tackle shop it would cost three times that much, and perhaps as long to buy as it took you to make it.

These tubes can be trolled on umbrella or coat-hanger rigs, or by themselves on wire line with ten-foot, 50-lb. mono leaders, or on straight mono weighted with lead drails. A good



You will need the above materials to make surgical tube lures.

The completed lures are easy to make and very effective in catching bass and blues.

bet—on the center clasp of the umbrella or coat hanger—is to put a dropper of heavy mono of 18 inches onto the tube. Try various colors on different days. If you have a fish finder, determine what depth they're feeding at. If not, start at the bottom and gradually change depth until you find the fish.

Next on your list is the bass tube which, I would imagine, imitates an eel. You'll need 14-inch lengths of various colors of tubing, 8/0 O'Shaughnessy stainless or tinned hooks, 40-lb. leader material, and size 1 or larger blackened swivels.

Cut one end of the tubing at a diagonal so that you have a two-inch tail. Four to five inches from the uncut end squeeze the tube together and, with a scissors, cut a small hole about 1/8-inch wide by 3/8-inch long on the same side as open tail.

Snell one of the hooks onto a 12-foot length of leader material following the instructions of Doctor S. Simons, LIF Issue 7, 2/14/74. Slide the other end of the leader material from the tail and have it emerge through the small hole you cut in the underside.

Hold the shank of the second hook and see where the bend will emerge from the tube. Grasp the leader and hold it along the shank so that a more or less straight, taut line extends

from the snelled hook to the one you're holding in your hand. Now snell this hook in reverse, with the loop through which you'll pass the untied end toward the eye of the hook. Tighten the snell. If it's loose, a little saliva will help lubricate the leader.

Put the rear hook on some immovable object, not your foot or hand, please, and make sure everything is ship-shape by applying some beefy pressure. Slip the end of the line back through the slit you cut and thread it out the front of the tube. Snug up the hook. Attach your swivel onto the leader with an improved clinch knot. There, that was a lot easier to do then it is to say. (See Diagram #2.)

This lure can be trolled on wire line, lead core or behind a drail. I've found the red to be most effective, but natural or black can sometimes turn the tide in your favor. An eighteen or twenty pound blue could probably cut through the leader and possibly the tube. If there are blues in the area, take a look at the next lure.

Blues and bass will both fall for this one. It is very similar to the preceding lure. It differs only in that wire is used with a medium-sized bead chain type swivel. It is only a bit less flexible than the other and, as a general purpose trolling lure, it is about perfection.

Cut the tube in the same manner as you did for #2.Pass four inches of #7 wire through the eye of the hook. Bend the wire and begin close to the hook, twisting one piece around the other. The first two twists are drawn out, the next five are in the order of a barrel knot, one layer next to the other. This is called a "Haywire Twist." (See Diagram #3). Now bend the short end at a right angle and, holding the wrap stationary, begin twisting. In a few turns it will snap off, leaving a clean

(Continued on page 31.)

Diagram #1. SHORT TUBE

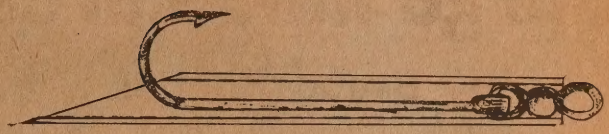


Diagram #2. LONG TUBE

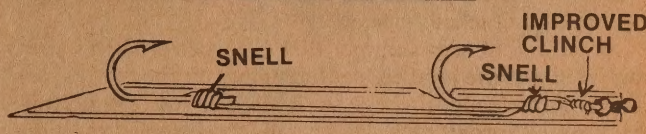
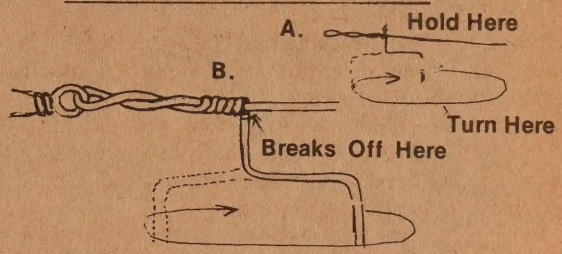
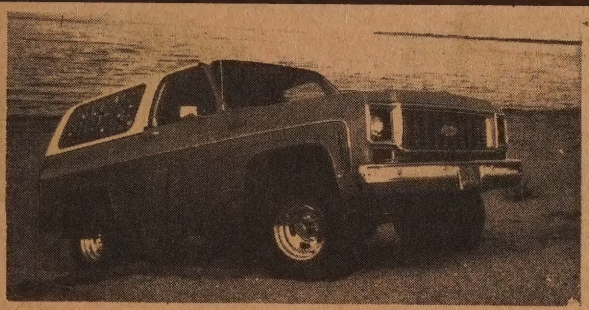


Diagram #3. HAYWIRE TWIST





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KING OF THE SURF

BY FRED GUARDINEER

KINGFISH ARE PRESENT IN THE L.I. SOUTHSHORE SURF FROM MAY TO OCTOBER

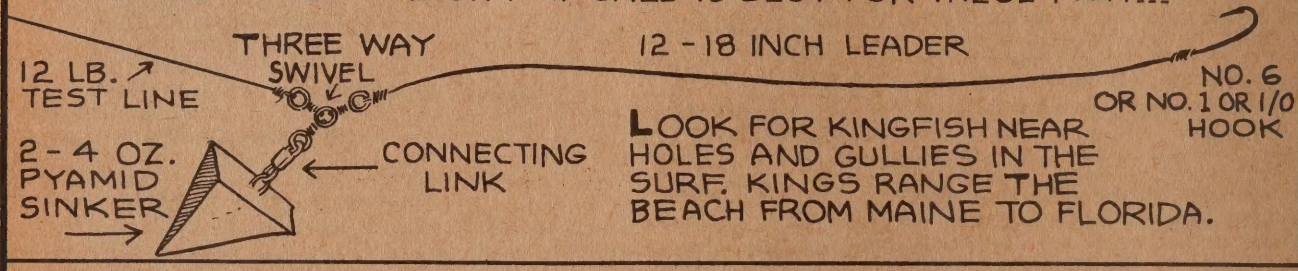
THE "LITTLE KINGS" ARE VERY ACCOMMODATING, STRIKE RAPIDLY, FIGHT HARD AND CAN BE CAUGHT ANYTIME OF THE DAY SUCH AS AT FAMILY BEACH PICNICS.

BLOODWORMS, CLAMS, SQUID AND SHRIMP ARE ALL GOOD BAIT.

KINGS RARELY EXCEED 2 LBS. IN WEIGHT.

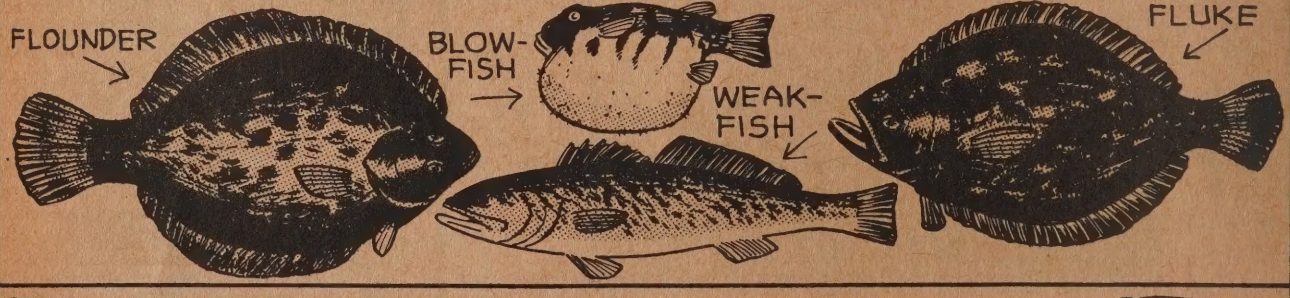
KINGS ARE EASILY SCALED AND THEY FILLET LIKE A BANANA. THE MEAT IS FIRM, MOIST AND EXCELLENT TABLE-FARE PAN-FRIED OR HOWEVER.

KINGFISH RIG — LIGHT TACKLE IS BEST FOR THESE FISH...

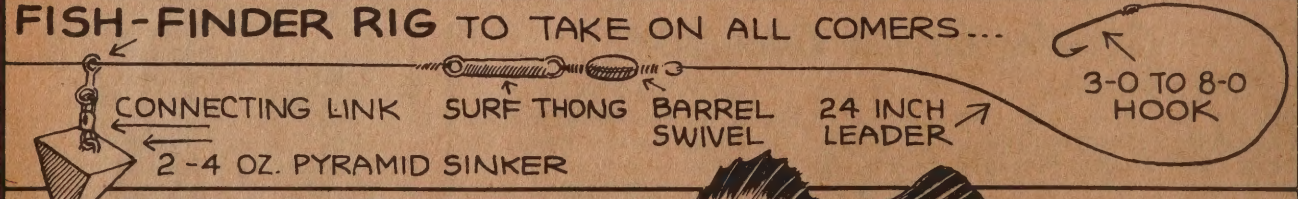


LOOK FOR KINGFISH NEAR HOLES AND GULLIES IN THE SURF. KINGS RANGE THE BEACH FROM MAINE TO FLORIDA.

OTHER FOOD FISH YOU MIGHT CATCH ON THE SAME RIG...

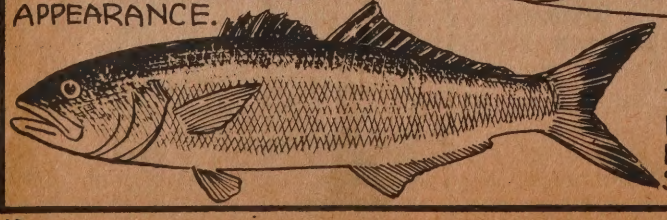


FISH-FINDER RIG TO TAKE ON ALL COMERS...



BLUES & STRIPERS

ARE THE GLAMOR FISH OF THE SURF AND WILL BOTH HIT THE SAME LURES. HAVE ANOTHER "STICK" READY FOR THEIR SUDDEN APPEARANCE.



STRIPED BASS SURF-FISHING REQUIRES SPECIALIZED TECHNIQUES YOU CAN LEARN BY FOLLOWING *WHITING EVANS OF AMITYVILLE* AROUND. HE CAN BE FOUND ON THE SOUTH SHORE, NORTH SHORE OR ON HIS "EVANS" ROCK AT MONTAUK.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

The **Hel-Cat** and the **Helen II** both sailed this week. Good fishing for cod and pollack was experienced by both boats in and around Block Island. Nice blackfish have been taken all week mixed with cod but Sunday saw six big snowshoe flounders taken.

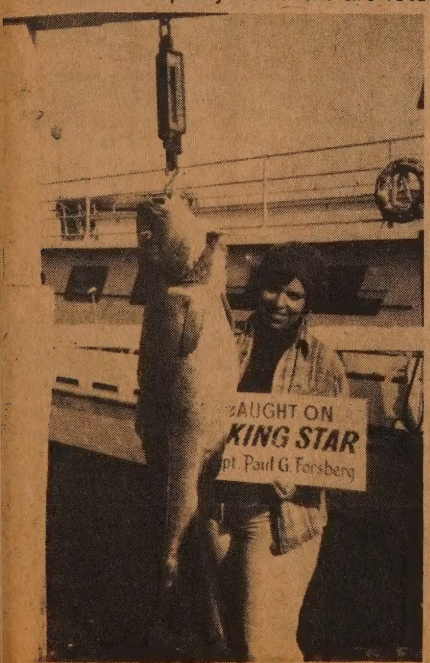
Capt. Ed. Hegner of the **Capt. Spider** reports good flounder fishing on the south side of the point. Catches vary according to the abilities of the fisherman.

The **Sportfisher** has been fishing the Southwest Ledge for cod and pollack. The fishing is good said Capt. Mc Turk.

The **Triton II** has been fishing Block Island and the Southwest Ledge with good catches of cod and pollack. On Saturday the Tinker Fishing Club with 17 members on board had over 170 cod and pollack.

Capt. Tom Mc Cann of the **Hound Dog** said there are plenty of cod and small pollack at Block Island. The larger cod are at Southwest Ledge. A few small snowshoe flounder of two or three pounds have also been picked up.

Ronnie at **Gone Fishing Marina** said the big thing for the rowboats is the mackerel. They are there by the bushelful. Sea bass came in and were caught on the outgoing tide at the Pocketbook. Anglers using clams had them up to two pounds. Snowshoe flounders are spotty but there are lots of small flounder from one to one and a quarter pounds in Montauk Lake.



Jane Weinstein of N.Y.C. caught this 46-lb. cod aboard the Viking Star at Montauk.

Alex Grimenez, Shirley, and Lew Deery, Pa., took 15 cod to 43½ lbs. aboard the Peconic Queen II out of Montauk.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at the **Promised Land Fishing Station** said Thursday was a very good fishing day. Flounder catches up to 50 per boat were had. Saturday saw it slow down a little but using mussels for bait as well as chum makes the difference. Fishing both sides of the high tide account for a better than average catch. Flounders up to four pounds with a few blacks that can go to eight pounds are there for anglers using worms and clams for bait. Hicks and Cartwright Islands and Tobaccolot Bay are the better spots, a few weakfish were caught also.

SAG HARBOR

Weakfish are in solid, said Helen Jacobson of the **Noyac Marina.** Tom Maher of Glen Cove with his two friends had 35 weakfish at buoy 16 in a few hours. A Salty Dog lure with a squid strip hung on does the trick along with a moving tide. Long Beach and the Monastery also have weaks. George Oliver of St. Albans with his daughters, Dawn and Terry, had over 30 porgies over one pound, fishing with bloodworms east of Jessup's Neck.

SHINNECOCK

Both of the **Capt. Clark** boats are fishing in the Peconic Bays for weakfish and porgies. The porgies are very beautiful and vary in size from three quarters to three pounds. Weakfish run up to seven pounds while none are under three.

Altenkirch Tackle reports good flounder and fluke in Shinnecock Bay. Fluke best on the uptide. Most fluke are keepers. Weakfish and porgies are plentiful throughout the Peconic Bays. A few mackerel are around in the Peconic but no concentration of them as yet.

HAMPTON BAYS

Fran Muller at **Frank's Fishing Station** reports very good fluke fishing in the East Channel of the inlet on the incoming tide. Sand eels or killies are the best bait. Flounders are still holding their own in the bay. Weakfish are in the Peconics.

MORICHES BAY

Hi-Way Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing at the Elbow by buoys 35 and 36. Flounder are still good.

Silly Lily reports good fluke all week at the Old Inlet Channel up to buoy 38. Using spearing and squid or sandeels and squid on an incoming tide is best. Flounder are between buoys 36 and 39. Worms with mussel chumming will keep the flounders coming all day.

Dick's Tackle Box in Center Moriches said the fluke are running two to three pounds with the larger fish spotty. Spearing or sand eels with squid are the bait. Weakfish up to nine pounds have been caught throughout Moriches Bay and at Smith Point Bridge. Salty Dogs with a squid strip is the hottest thing. Flounder are still holding their own.

MASTIC BEACH

Keenan's Fishing Station reports very good fluke and weakfishing over the weekend. Fluke were caught in the channel by buoy 19. Fluke between five and ten pounds were caught using killies. Weakfish were in the same area but they were taking Salty Dog lures. The weaks were between five to eight pounds.

WEST SAYVILLE

The Crowbar Anglers of Brentwood sailed from **Young's Fishing Station** and caught boads of weakfish. Dudley Yound said they fished various areas such as Cherry Grove, Brown's River and in and around Heckscher. Although Salty Dog lures pulled in the weaks, Dudley said that one angler tried a radish. Yep! The one that you eat. Fish weights were from four to six pounds with the top weight of eight and a half.

Oakdale Marina Fishing Station reports plenty of weakfish south of buoy 4. These fish ranged from two to five pounds. Sandy Powell said the Salty Dog in various colors does the trick. A few fluke were caught but all were throwbacks.

Weakfishing was a bonanza during the evening hours. Frank Michaelson of Islip and Scott Simons, L.I.F. staff member, fished buoy 3 south of Heckscher Thursday evening. In two hours fishing they had 52 weakfish in the boat, all in the six to eight pound tide-runner class. Frank said there were schools of fish on the surface number-

ing in the thousands, and that every hooked fish was followed to the boat by 15 or 20 other weakfish that were trying to eat the salty dog sticking out of the hooked fish's mouth. Two fish were netted without hooks in their mouths accidently. The secret to success was a pink salty dog bounced on the bottom slowly.

CAPTREE

Capt. Richie has been fishing fluke this past week and will continue to do so. He has been working in the Fire Island Inlet area and picking up mostly all keepers. The fluke run under five pounds with an eight to 10 fish per man average.

Weakfish are hitting day and night according to George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty.** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were spotty. Thursday saw it very much better while Friday

Frank De Pasqua, Harvey "Moon" Saler and Mike Andreycisk, all from Brooklyn with some of the 271 weakfish they took south of buoy 4 off Heckscher. Photo courtesy of South Bay Fishing Station.

was a slaughter. The weakfish run from four to six pounds with some going to 10. Ten or 12 fish are an average catch.

Capt Bob of the **Capt. Joseph IV** has been weakfishing with good results when the tide is moving. Two other Capt. Joseph boats are flounder and fluke fishing with very good results on both kinds of fish.

The **Speedy V** started weakfishing Thursday and it is fabulous. Friday saw 240 weaks for 14 people while Saturday it was over 500 weaks for 70 people. Fish are averaging five pounds with a top of nine. Capt. Hubert said to bring spinning tackle with eight to 12 pound test line on it, nothing heavier. Capt. Hubert says "Let's all enjoy the weakfish. When you see a boat catching them don't come up to them with spray flying—take it easy and don't scare the fish."

The charter boat **Yankee** has been flounder and fluke fishing with very good results. Saturday was one of the better days.

Capt. Litwin reports really great fluking—the best in years. Squid-fillie combination do the trick. Anglers are taking 10 to 20 per man with fish weights up to six or seven pounds.

Capt. Bill Joseph of the **Capt. Joseph Fleet** called to say that on Friday, the Capt. Joseph had over 200 keeper fluke and over 1500 flounders, while Joseph II & IV mohawked the macks offshore. Bill said the fishing is the best in years. The Joseph Fleet is currently switching over to weaks and fluke, which are there in droves.

BABYLON

Good flounder fishing by the Captree Bridge on the north shore says Walter Schmidt of **Babylon Fishing Station.** Fluke and weaks are at the junction of Dickerson and Snokehill Channel and buoys 4,5 & 6. Shrimp bait tail lures as well as squid

The Zito Brothers and Mr. Bandeira took 34 weakfish on Salty Dogs off Heckscher. Photo courtesy of Oakdale Marina.

are for the weaks. The fluke will take squid, killies or shiners or combinations of them. Weaks can also be had buoy 7 and the entrance to the Babylon Cut.

Jean Principe of **Augie's Bait & Tackle** said Ray Whitman on the Kathy Queen caught a 88-pound blue shark about two hours out of the inlet heading 190 degrees. Nick Vigo and friends caught 50 fluke on Saturday. They were drifting east of the Coast Guard Station using sand eels and squid. The fish were from three to four and a half pounds. The Town Dock saw crabs being caught on Saturday. About 12 to 15 per angler, all keepers. Weakfish are at the dock and in the canals in the evening.

LINDENHURST

John Jr. at **Charlie's Bait & Tackle** said weaks are all over but particularly at buoy 3 at Heckscher. Jim Anderson got over 20 weaks from three to nine pounds. Fluke are at the Fire Island Inlet and inside of it. Bluefish of two to four pounds were chasing mackerel at the Whistler buoy.

AMITYVILLE

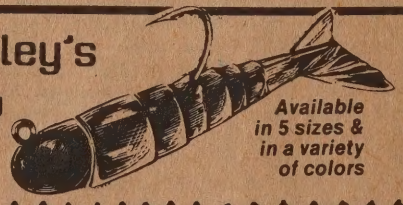
Jonas Bait said his customer Koenecke with his son had over 30 weaks up to ten pounds. They fished West Farms on Sunday using the Viking Shrimpie. Lou Clements and Al Dicaro of the Amity Fishing Club had 50 weaks, one of which tipped the scales at 11 pounds three ounces. They drifted from Copiague to Nassau Shores in the early morning. Blacks are at the Robert Moses Bridge up to seven pounds. The flounder are dropping off in the bay but one customer had 40 keepers fishing the Sore Thumb using mussel chum and bloodworms. On Saturday, Lou Clements and Al Dicaro

Nothing looks more like a shrimp than a shrimp . . . except maybe

A SALTY DOG

bagley's

Salty Dog SHRIMP



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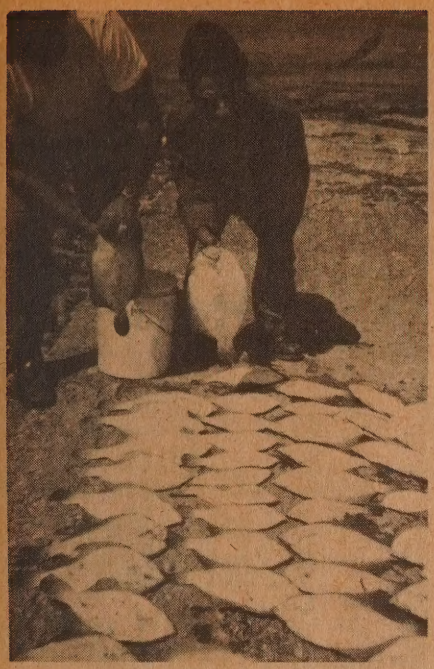

Reginald Ferreira and Mr. Simonette of the Bronx with 55 flounder taken off Hicks Island out of the Promised Land Fishing Station.

again went to buoy 4 at Heckscher and caught 70 weakfish which were all released with ten of them tagged.

George Combs Tackle Shop reports: Weaks great from Zacks Bay to Gilgo Cut. Shrimp chummers picking fish 5-8 lbs. East-West Channel catching weaks on Viking Flapper Tail Shrimp. Dock fishermen doing well at Captree with sand eels and sandworms on weakfish. Kevin Kelly, Eugene Valentine and Mike Fernandes had weaks up to 7 lbs. and fluke to 3½ lbs. at the dock Friday.

SEAFORD

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station reports a mixed bag of fish. Fluke, flounder, weaks and blacks. Flounder and fluke are being caught at the same time with an occasional weakfish picked up. Blackfish are at all the bridges in good quantity.

Pop's Fishing Station also reports terrific flounder and fluke action. Weaks are also picked up.

Dell's Fishing Station said that every other boat had 50 to 60 flounders mostly keepers. He had Mike and Pete Elaia of Westbury who caught 10 fluke and kept four which went to four pounds. Blackfish are at all the bridges in good supply. One flounder fisherman caught an 11 pound black. A few weakfish were caught.

Lon Wanser called to report that Bob Porter of Seaford caught a 31 pound striped bass east of Jones Inlet between the inlet and the tower. Bob tried several rigs but the red Lupo Umbrella Rig turned the trick.

WANTAGH

Flounder are good said Frank at **Causeway Bait & Tackle.** Fred Siege of

Brian Carlisle, 20 months old, with flounders he caught while fishing with Grandpa Nedorost in Amityville. Start 'em young!

Lou Rosado and Gary Besman took 40 snowshoe flounder 2-4-lbs. at Cartwright Point on the east side of Gardner's Island. Lou is a department manager at Herman's Sporting Goods in Roosevelt Field.

Hicksville caught 59 flounder at Jones Beach Pier along with a three pound fluke. A few weakfish were caught so they are still to come. Fluke fishing is improving daily. Blacks are in solid at all the bridges.

MERRICK

Good weak and fluke fishing according to Ron at **Whaleneck Marina.** The Babylon Cut is producing both weaks and fluke on squid bait. The weaks are also hitting the shrimp bait tail lures. Flounder are plentiful throughout the bay as well as at the Short Beach Coast Guard Station.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Kessinger of the new **Starstream II** found plenty of mackerel drifting from Jones Beach Tower to Gilgo. The mackerel are still plentiful and the Starstream II is sticking with them.

Joe Iles called to tell us that on Sunday with his two buddies they drifted Jones Inlet on the incoming tide from the barge to the Coast Guard Station. They bounced squid off the bottom and picked up two dozen fat 18 inch fluke. Another dozen shorts were returned to the water.

Nick Noonan of the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** called to say they had seven boats out each day of the weekend plus the open boat Capt. Hall. Mackerel were caught on Saturday 150 degrees and six miles out. The fish moved southeast all day. Sunday they were further east. Flounder fishing was great south of Swift Creek where it meets the State Channel. Catches of 10-20 a person are the normal while the flounders go from one to two pounds. The outgoing was the best.

Anthony's Fishing Station called to report the Erbert brothers of Elmont came out on Wednesday and caught 50 flounders. They tried again Sunday and it was a repeat of Wednesday. Short Beach has these flounder as well as a few fluke. Fluke are at Jones Inlet to the State Channel.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Art White on the **Angler II** said the mackerel fishing was fairly good on Saturday while on Sunday it slowed considerably. They had to run quite a bit east for them. This coming weekend he will begin fishing for fluke and weakfish.

Long Beach Marina says Reynolds Channel, Duck Point and by the old Long Beach Firehouse have given up fluke to six pounds. Flounders are still quite good but fading. Striped bass off Sandy Hook in N.J.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** has been catching fluke from East Rockaway Inlet to

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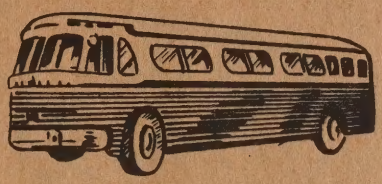

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Jones Inlet and the buoys in between. Saturday in a three hour span they had 60 fluke. Sunday with the high winds they had 50 fluke. Sunday's pool winner was a five-pound fluke caught by Lee who was also hi-hook with 14 fish. Ninety percent of the fish caught are keepers. A few weaks are caught in the back bays.

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook reports flounders and blacks are around the bridges. Drifting in the main channel for fluke and a few weakfish while fluking near Duck Point. Striped bass are in the surf for those trying worms at Point Lookout and Cedar Beach. Clam chumming at the bridges is producing four and five pound striped bass.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon at **Henning's Fishing Station** said the fluke are all up and down the channel, you can pick your spot. Most fish run up to four pounds but a couple were double that. Plenty of flounder at buoys 3 and 5 while the larger ones are at the inlet. Blackfish are at The Bridge taking fiddler crabs. Silver Point Jetty has small bass and some weaks.

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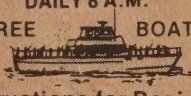
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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

JAMAICA BAY

Noehren's Bait & Tackle reports the blacks are getting better at the Marine Parkway Bridge. There are plenty of eels around. Flounder fishing seems to be dropping off. A few unconfirmed reports of tinker mackerel are around.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Fred of the **Amberjack IV** said the mackerel were picky this Saturday A.M. but made up for it in the P.M. Sunday's catch was fair to good. Capt. Fred says he has openings for the upcoming Nantucket fishing trip on May 25. Speaking from personal experience this reporter knows that you catch more codfish than you could ever carry.

Neal at **Stella Maris Tackle** said the mackerel are slowing down. Fluke are at Riis Park and take squid. Blackfish at Rockaway Jetty, Marine Parkway Bridge and off Sea Bright. The blacks are taking fiddler or green crabs.

Bay End Dock reports good blackfishing at Rockaway Jetty, Manhattan Beach and Marine Parkway Bridge. Catches on Saturday were 20 or 25 and went to six pounds. Flounder are still at Louie's Pier near the Rockaway Jetty. Striped Bass was trolled at the Round House on Lupo umbrella rigs.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo 's Sport Shop reports the flounder are fading with the best spot at the Great Kills Jetty. The slack is being taken up there by the fluke that are moving in. During the week plenty of two to four pound bass are picked up on worms off Great Kills. The Harbor has bass taking bucktails and the Red Fin lure which took an eight pounder. Blackfish are a slow steady pick anywhere there are rocks. Blueclaw crabs are starting to show. A boy caught six but they were all females and small so they were returned to the water. Small lafayettes or spats are being caught.

Jerry Prusan and son Arthur, 8, took these 5 weakfish up to 6 lbs. 10 oz. on pink Lupo shrimp in the Babylon Cut.

Charlie Marzullo of Hewlett took this 8-pound weakfish on a pink Lupo Shrimp in the State Channel near Freeport.

GREENPORT

Art White of the **a.p. white bait shop** was really excited when called for the fishing report. "It's great—it's excellent" poured forth Art. "I haven't seen it like this since I was a kid." Both open boats **Brand X** & **Wilhelric** were mobbed over the weekend and ALL aboard had big mixed bags of large weaks and humpback sea porgies, up to 3½ lbs. The charter boats came in loaded too, with porgies and weaks. There are blacks and porgies for surf and jetty casters as well. Weaks have run to 10½ lbs. The weakfish are really aggressive, says Art. They aren't spooking. Middle Grounds, Jessups, Noyak are a few of the hot spots.

SOUTHOLD

Pete at **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** reports the fishing is just fantastic. Huge catches of big fish, sums it up. Weakfish, porgies, fluke, seabass are all there and they're hungry! Ron Reinhold of Brooklyn took a 9 lb. 12 oz. weak on 12 lb. test line at the brickyards. Weaks and porgies abound here. John Daizmore of the Bronx took a 14 lb. 15 oz. fluke on the S. side of buoy 17 while fishing for weaks with squid. 8 & 9 lb. fluke are common, while porgie fishing, no less. Stan Zeremba, Jr. of N. Massapequa took a 5 lb. 10 oz. sea bass.

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Giant humpback porgies over 3 lbs. are common. Hot spots abound.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports fantastic weakfish and porgy fishing. Loads of porgies S/W of Robbins Island, (Buoys 28, 29 & 30) Try the weaks S. of Nassau Pt.-S. Race. On Saturday, 3 sharpshooters Jimmy Carolan (of Herman's) Fred Sigkowski & Joe Dimineo took 160 weaks up to 9.5 lbs. on squid tipped bucktails and artificial shrimp at Nassau Pt. buoy near the sandslide, on incoming tide.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Center reports plenty of weaks and porgies off Robbins Island, buoy 23. Porgies 1½-2 lbs. and weaks up in the 8 lb. class. 5 lbers. are common. Shrimp lures tipped with squid are the choice for weaks and sandworms on the porgies.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Queensland Cove Tackle Shop reports that the beaches from Rocky Pt. to Miller Place is producing weaks, porgies, blacks, flounders. Best baits are worm, clam, fiddlers and artificial shrimp on incoming water. And this is for surf casters!

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. Joe Cash of the **Port Jeff Ace** said to quote him "the fishing is fabulous". Plenty of caw blacks, sea bass, porgies, flounder and mackerel. The Port Jeff Ace is now sailing every day. On Saturday Danny O'Neill of Setauket won the pool with a ten and half pound blackfish. Sunday saw Cub Pack 51 of Centereach on board catching loads of blackfish in the afternoon.

Capt. Bill Littlefield of the **Jib III** had the Lutheran Men's Club out. It was a great day, said Bill At least 75 blackfish, loads of porgies and some macks & fluke. Two 10 lb. blacks caused a split pool between anglers Hal Chewers & Joe Meyer. Sunday, Capt. Bill sailed open, hitting porgies, blacks & fluke. An 8½ lb. black took the pool for Nick Mongognia. Clams were the baits. Bill fished E. of Pt. Jeff, buoy 11, Miller Place.

Capt. John Fischer of the **Betty W** called to say the blackfishing is "unreal". It is fast and the fish are big. As an example, on Sat., angler Frank De Gregorio took a blackfish double header 7 lb. each. Wow!

Caraftis Fishing Station reports plenty of flounder, all the blacks you want, porgies and even regular catches of sea bass (3 lb. class) The macks are still there, especially in the 1st 3 hrs. at daybreak. Bass at Crane's Neck on worms, small plugs and bucktails.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Tim at **Smithtown Sports Shop** reports there's very good weakfishing off Cranes Neck on pink artificial shrimp. Tim weighed in a 10 pounder. Flounder in the mouth of the Nissequogue River on worm and clam. Short bass off Sunken Meadow. Blacks are good, on bloodworms off the Brickyard.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Tackle Shop reports porgie action on clam and sandworms starting to pick up. Weaks are starting to show on artificial shrimp lures. Blacks on clam and worm. Flounder fishing easing off.

Mort Smith at Larkfield Sports Center reports good blackfishing at Mackamah & Sand City on green crabs. Also, bass at the powerhouse.

The trailered charterboat **Jennie Three** had 5 men out for spring cod Sat. Capt. Pete Novellino fished off Block Island, the Submarine Buoy & Southwest Ledge. The pick was fairly steady all day, with 57 cod and 3 pollack. Several beautiful red cod pulled in. Clam baits accounted for tasty cod, which ran up to 11 lbs.

HUNTINGTON

Mrs. Valentine at **Four Winds Tackle Shop** reports loads of blacks and porgies at Sand City. Also, weaks starting at Sand City and in Cold Spring Harbor.

Capt. Don of the **Everready Fleet** was beside himself with description of the great fishing in his area this last week. "Fishing has never been better," Don says. Huge mixed bags of porgies, weaks, blacks, flounder are giving each angler about 50 fish to take home. Jerry Denzer of E. Northport on ½ day trip took a $23 pool with a 5¼ lb. weak. Miss Jackie Ruben, on Sat., ½ day run, took 46 fish. This was her first fishing trip. 2½ year old Davie Steinberg (with help from dat) got a 3½ lb. weak. Arleen Qumanamos took a 3 lb. sea bass. On Sun., Chris Tinto lost an 11 lb. (est.) weak and later in the day, took a 5 lb. black and the $21 pool.

Noor Akeel (hiding in shadow) caught this 7 lb. 2 oz. blackfish at the brickyard.

FREEPORT

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COLD SPRING HARBOR

Harry at **Veteran's Fishing Station** reports fishing is really hot. Porgies to 1½ lbs. on worm and clam. Blacks to 5 lbs. on worm and fiddler crab. Weaks on artificial shrimp and drifted worm in Oyster Bay Harbor off Center Island Shore, up to 4½ lbs. Flounder up to 1½ lbs. Mackerel off Center Island up to 2 lbs. Stripers being trolled along Whitewood Pt. and the east shore of Cold Spring Harbor.

GLEN COVE

John at **Glen Cove Sports** called happily to announce that MACKEREL have arrived. Art McKenzie had 20 macks off Prybill casting from shore, fish 1-2 lbs. Thursday, a large school of macks surfaced and boiled off Prybill. Roger Owens and crew got 10 Sunday night off the Matinecock Buoy on small Krokodiles. Joe Familietti had a 3 & 4 lb. bass off Matinicock Pt. on Creek Chub poppers. Frank Simkins got a 6 lb. striped bass on a fly rod from a boat off Maxwells. Bass Hounds—get some of these macks for bass baits.

PORT WASHINGTON

Rocky at **Moreland's Bait & Tackle** reports macks at Gangway Rocks and vicinity, on trolled mackerel rigs. Bass are all over Manhasset Bay, plugging (nites are best) Plenty of blacks on fiddlers and worms.

CITY ISLAND

Jack of **Jack's Bait & Tackle** reports lots of blackfish (an exceptionally good year, says Jack) at Hart's Island, Sands Pt., Execution Light, Old CBS Tower on fiddler & green crabs.

Macks from Harts Island on up on mackerel trees with 2 or 3 oz. dia. jigs. The Apache, North Star, & Theresa L-III are all fishing for mackerel for half the trip, then bottom fishing the other half of the trip, for blacks, porgies and weaks. They've been having very good catches, and the Apache lost a 9 pounder at the surface when the lucky (?) angler lost the fish before the mate could reach him with the net.

NEW ROCHELLE

Capt. Pete Pearson's **Klondike V** has been loading up on mackerel in the sound, but by Wed., will be splitting the trip among macks, weaks, porgies & blacks. By Sat., the mackerel fishing will be dropped.

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CONNECTICUT SCENE

NEW ROCHELLE

Blackfish are just unbelievable! That's the word from **Cameron's Boats** in New Rochelle this week, where more anglers are catching more big blacks than at any time in recent years. Flounder are hitting too, and mackerel are baout a mile or so outside the Lighthouse near Fort Slocum. The first school striper of the year has arrived at the dock.

MAMARONECK

It's buoy 42 near Scotch Caps for mackerel according to **Mamaroneck Fishing Station.** If anglers don't come in with a couple of pails-full of blackfish they just aren't satisfied. A 16 pound bass was taken in local waters. on a plug.

RYE

Point Tackle reports mackerel and blacks are abundant. Blacks are being taken near Playland and the mackerel are found around Captain's Island. Bass should open up any day now.

GREENWICH

Sportsmen's Den reports the mackerel are in from buoy 11B all the way to Mamaroneck. Some big porgies have been coming in as well.

STAMFORD

Pat's Marina is excited about a run of blackfish that is improving daily. Mackerel too, are hitting extremely well. Bass are also showing some activity.

ROWAYTON

The Bait Shop tells of mackerel one half mile outside Green's Ledge light. They are solid as far as the eye can see. A few schoolies are being caught and bait fishing on the bottom is great for blacks.

NORWALK

Mola Bros. reports most of the fishing in the area is for mackerel. Blackfishing is excellent here as every where.

The Tackle Box reported that mackerel and blacks have it all at this time. A local flounder contest will provide a truer picture on that species when the results are tallied.

WESTPORT

Mackerel all over the place is the report locally. Much of the action is located outside of buoy 24. Bass are in their regular haunts, such as Bedford Point, Schlaits Point and Sherwood Island. Good blackfish action at Compo Beach.

NEW HAVEN

Outdoor Sports reports mackerel close by the breakwaters with some bi

bass beneath them. Morningside, Milford, Charles Island are some of the spots for this bonus fishing. Porgies are being taken good sizes an quantities off the lighthouse breakwater. Blackfishings still terrific anywhere a pile of rocks can be found.

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L.I. MARINE ECOLOGY
(Continued from page 13)

Dr. Lee testified that the bridge, if constructed, would destroy many acres of valuable marsh, and his testimony was valuable in halting the project at that stage. The D.E.C. was not conspicuous in the fight and did not request the assistance of known authorities in the field.

Why does this happen? Why are Long Island's marine sportsmen neglected by the D.E.C.? Trout hatcheries provide populations of fish for freshwater enthusiasts, and the department is quick to manage Upstate deer herds. Why is marine ecological stability so neglected by the *only* state government agencies capable of being instrumental in protection, conservation, enforcement, and management? Do we still view the sea as a vast sump—a place to dispose of anything and everything undesirable? Do we still believe that the sea has an infinite capacity to accept abuse and bounce back as healthy and vital as ever? Or are our Long Island residents and our marine habitats unimpressive in Albany?

The participation of Long Islanders in marine recreational activities is significant, as are the fees and taxes generated by these activities. In 1971 (most recent data available at this writing), Nassau, Suffolk and New York City possessed 35.7% of the total boat registrations in the state and about 12% of the total hunting and fishing licenses issued by the state.

The statistics indicate that a significant number of tax-paying voters support the department financially via specific fees and taxes. Furthermore, these same citizens are involved in recreation that requires healthy habitats that should and must be managed by the D.E.C!

The state budget also reflects Albany's lack of interest in the protection of our marine environment. This is true in spite of the fact that our environment is under seige from vested interest groups who stand to make enormous amounts of money at the expense of our future!

In 1968, the department's total allocation of funds represented 0.5% of the total state budget. This figure declined to 0.3% in 1969, then rose back to about 0.5% in 1970, 0.8% in 1971, and has remained at about this level in 1972. In addition, there is no way to tell how much of this money was spent on the conservation of marine habitat from the data available.

The neglect and apathy of society—especially those in high places, whose charge it is to function as representatives of society—has already brought about enormous destruction to terrestrial and aquatic habitats. If the pattern of neglect continues, it will be too late to preserve what remains because there will simply not be enough of it left to matter.

We know so little about marine life, but many of us continue to gather information every day. Until we truly understand all possible consequences of man's activities on marine environments, we must be ultra-conservative in the management of existing resources. This *must* be the energetic, continuous, and *aggressive* role of the D.E.C., but it is not !

This has been the first in a series of articles about the ecology of Long Island's marine habitats. We invite response to these ideas in the hope of promoting a dialogue which may act as a catalyst to promote essential changes in the attitude of governmental authority and the apathy of many of our citizens, and clarify vital mandates for public agencies and those commissions whose job is should be to protect our vanishing marine resources.

HOW TO MAKE TUBES
(Continued from page 17.)

end with no rough edges. On the other end of this wire, put a loop made the same way so that it will just protrude from the slot you cut in the forward end of the tube. Make the loop just large enough to slip over the barb of the other hook. Tie the second hook to a foot-long length of wire. Holding this hook against the tube so that the bend is at the slit, attach the bead chain swivel so that about 2/3 will protrude from the square cut end. Slip the loop from hook #1 over barb of hook #2. Thread bead chain through the tube, using a piece of mono as a "needle threader". You're finished. Phew!

The hard thing to learn is the attaching of anything properly to a piece of wire. Practice it and you will have an important piece of fishing knowledge at your disposal. If after trying to tie your own wire leaders you find that you can't manage it, you can do one of two things. Find someone that can and will be patient enough to show you how, or buy "Steelon" cable, which is seven strands of wire covered with a plastic coating. It is available in many different strengths —from about 10-lb. test to 60. It is attached to hooks and lures using sleeve fasteners and a special crimping pliers (cost about $2:50).

Steelon can replace the single strand wire in the above lure, but once a season the lure should be disassembled and the components checked. This can easily be done by slipping the loop from the tail hook off the bend of the front hook and simply slipping apart the sections.

P.S. Many thanks to Bernie Schwartz of Bernie's Tackle Shop, who patiently (when he still has patients) taught me the basics of surge tube lures.

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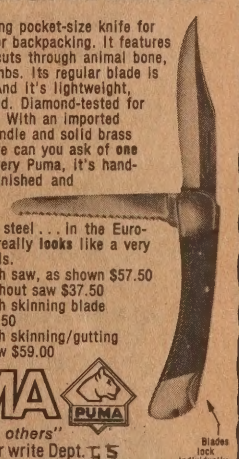

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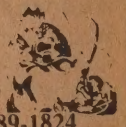

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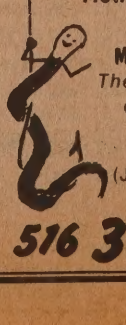

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DIVING SHINNECOCK INLET

(Continued from page 15.)

Navigational aids are also few and far between. Shinnecock is not the place for a night dive, unless you plan to stay all night. When the sun goes down, night falls hard and everything becomes black. You can't snake along the shore, because it's too shallow. Your spotlight is useless, because there is nothing to shine it on. You are just one little dot in the black nothingness.

Shinnecock can be a real vacation for the diver. There are several places with their own docks to stay on the bays. We stayed at a nice cottage for ten days, had some fine diving, and did a lot of relaxing.

In Tiana and Shinnecock Bay there is a thriving clam industry. Commercial men, natives and tourists can be seen digging merrily for those succulent little rascals. But divers beware! The taking of clams by usage of diving equipment is illegal in the Shinnecock area. What the boundaries are, I don't know. All I can say is, don't ruin a lovely time by getting fined. Take things slow and easy. Get the most out of your dive by being safe, and by becoming a part of this beautiful underwater world.

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The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

Thurs.	6:15	**12:40**	6:55	**1:15**
Fri.	7:20	**1:55**	8:00	**2:20**
Sat.	8:25	**2:45**	8:55	**3:00**
Sun.	9:35	**3:50**	10:00	**4:10**
Mon.	10:30	**4:55**	11:05	**5:20**
Tues.	11:35	**5:50**	11:55	**6:15**
Weds.	-	**6:35**	12:30	**7:00**
Thurs.	12:45	**7:15**	1:15	**7:40**

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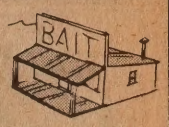

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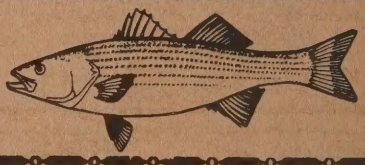

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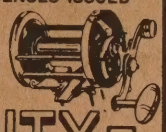

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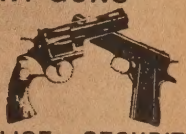

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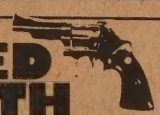

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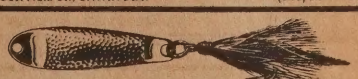

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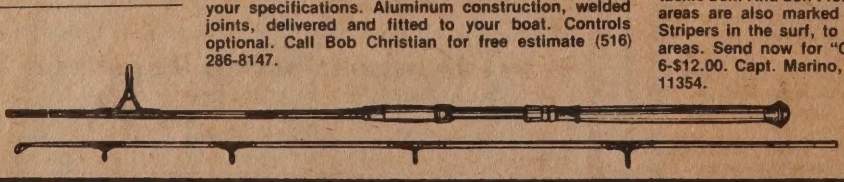

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM
5/23 THURSDAY	9:43	9:56	11:11	11:22	12:26	1:02	12:37	1:14
5/24 FRIDAY	10:36	10:49	-	12:03	1:16	1:52	1:26	2:03
5/25 SATURDAY	11:34	11:47	12:15	1:00	2:08	2:48	2:19	2:56
5/26 SUNDAY	-	12:31	1:13	2:01	3:04	3:49	3:14	3:52
5/27 MONDAY	12:43	1:30	2:16	3:03	4:07	5:00	4:13	4:52
5/28 TUESDAY	1:42	2:29	3:22	4:07	5:26	6:19	5:15	5:51
5/29 WEDNESDAY	2:43	3:28	4:31	5:08	6:52	7:29	6:20	6:51
5/30 THURSDAY	3:45	4:27	5:36	6:07	8:04	8:31	7:22	7:49

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet.Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

5/21	5/28	6/4	6/13
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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